

Claims

1. A method of installing licensed software on an end user's computer comprising:
providing an end user computer having a program storage device and a unique
computer identifier distinguishing the end user computer from other computers;
providing a network computer having access to a program storage device containing
software for license to end users and a program storage device containing a
database listing computer identifiers licensed to run the software;
using the network computer to contact the end user computer and determine its end
user computer identifier;
verifying listing of the end user computer identifier in the network computer database;
downloading the software from the network computer; and
installing the downloaded software on the end user computer program storage device.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the unique computer identifier is selected from the
group consisting of a BIOS serial number and a network adapter address.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein on installation on the end user computer program
storage device, the software comprises a program for execution on the end user computer.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein the network computer includes a plurality of
different software and, prior to downloading the software, further including:
identifying to the end user computer all of the software on the network computer
program storage device listed as licensed by the computer identifier of the end
user computer; and
sending from the end user computer to the network computer a selection of the
software to be downloaded,
and thereafter downloading and installing on the end user computer program storage
device the selected software.

[illegible]

1 13. A method of installing licensed software on an end user's computer comprising:

15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
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1 14. The method of claim 13 wherein the unique computer identifier is selected from
2 the group consisting of a BIOS serial number and a network adapter address.

1 15. The method of claim 13 wherein the network computer includes a plurality of
2 different software and, prior to downloading the software, further including:
3 identifying to the end user computer all of the software on the network computer
4 program storage device listed as licensed by the computer identifier of the end
5 user computer; and
6 sending from the end user computer to the network computer a selection of the
7 software to be downloaded,
8 and thereafter downloading and installing on the end user computer program storage
9 device the selected software.

[illegible]

1 19. A computer program product for use with a network computer and an end user's
2 computer, said computer program product comprising a computer usable medium having
3 computer readable program code means embodied in said medium for installing licensed

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4 software from the network computer to the end user's computer, said network computer
5 having access to a program storage device containing software for license to end users
6 and a program storage device containing a database listing computer identifiers licensed
7 to run the software, said end user computer having a program storage device and a unique
8 computer identifier distinguishing the end user computer from other computers, said
9 computer program product having:

10 computer readable program code means for contacting the end user computer using
11 the network computer;

12 computer readable program code means for determining the end user computer
13 identifier;

14 computer readable program code means for verifying listing of the end user computer
15 identifier in the network computer database;

16 computer readable program code means for downloading software from the network
17 computer; and

18 computer readable program code means for installing the downloaded software on the
19 end user computer program storage device.

20. An article of manufacture comprising: a computer usable medium having computer readable program code means embodied therein for installing licensed software from a network computer to an end user's computer, said network computer having access to a program storage device containing software for license to end users and a program storage device containing a database listing computer identifiers licensed to run the software, said end user computer having a program storage device and a unique computer identifier distinguishing the end user computer from other computers, the computer readable program code means in said article of manufacture comprising:

9 computer readable program code means for contacting the end user computer using
10 the network computer;

